

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BONN 21122 01 OF 04 161549Z
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INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
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AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMCONSUL STUTTGART

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 04 BONN 21122

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, EGEN, PGOV, GW
SUBJECT: CHANCELLOR PRESENTS FRG POLICY STATEMENT
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 BONN 21122 01 OF 04 161549Z

IN BUNDESTAG

1. AFTER SWEARING-IN OF THE NEW FRG CABINET (SEPTEL),
CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT READ FRG'S POLICY STATEMENT
("REGIERUNGSERKLAERUNG") IN THE BUNDESTAG. THE FOLLOW-
ING IS A PRECIS OF THAT STATEMENT. IN LATER CABLES,

THE EMBASSY WILL ANALYZE SOME OF THESE POINTS IN MORE DETAIL.

2. BEGIN SUMMARY. SCHMIDT'S STATEMENT COVERED: THE CURRENT STATE OF THE NATION; THE ECONOMIC FOUNDATIONS (ECONOMY, FINANCE, AGRICULTURE, ENERGY, INFRASTRUCTURE); SOCIAL MEASURES TO ASSURE "INTERNAL SOLIDARITY"; RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE CITIZEN AND HIS SOCIETY; FOREIGN POLICY; INNER-GERMAN RELATIONS AND BERLIN. SCHMIDT DEFINED THE FRG'S AGENDA FOR THE FUTURE AS: (1) TO KEEP THE PEACE BY CONTINUING A FOREIGN POLICY OF GOOD NEIGHBORLINESS AND PARTNERSHIP; (2) TO PROTECT JOBS AND CREATE NEW ONES; (3) TO PRESERVE SOCIAL PEACE AT HOME; (4) TO STRENGTHEN THE "SOCIAL NET" WHICH ASSURES SOCIAL SECURITY; (5) TO REFORM THE HEALTH-CARE SYSTEM BY PUTTING IT ON A MORE ECONOMIC BASIS; (6) TO CREATE MORE TRAINING AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR GERMAN YOUTH; AND (7) TO ASSURE THAT CITIES, COUNTIES, AND COUNTRY-SIDES REMAIN "LIVEABLE." END SUMMARY.

3. CURRENT STATE OF THE NATION.

SCHMIDT ADDED A LAST-MINUTE PROLOGUE TO HIS DECLARATION WHICH COMMENTED ON THE RECENT FLAP OVER THE COALITION'S PLAN TO DEFER A PROMISED HIKE IN SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENTS. SCHMIDT ADMITTED THAT THE FRG HAD NOT EXPECTED SO HEFTY A REACTION, BUT CONCLUDED THAT ITS DECISION TO BOW TO THIS PRESSURE DID CREDIT TO A DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM. SURVEYING THE CURRENT SCENE, THE CHANCELLOR SAID THAT ECONOMIC GROWTH CANNOT GO ON UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 BONN 21122 01 OF 04 161549Z

WITHOUT LIMIT, AND THAT REFORMS -- WHILE NEEDED -- SHOULD NOT LEAD TO EVER-INCREASING PAYMENTS BY THE STATE. HE SAID THAT WEST GERMANY HAD COME THROUGH THE RECENT WORLDWIDE ECONOMIC RECESSION BETTER THAN MOST STATES, BUT ALSO HAD A RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP OTHERS. HE PLEDGED THAT THE NEW FRG WILL CONTINUE ITS POLICY OF PROMOTING PEACE ABROAD, AND CONTINUAL REFORM AT HOME.

4. ECONOMIC FOUNDATIONS.

SCHMIDT SAID THAT THE OVERRIDING TASK IS TO ACHIEVE FULL EMPLOYMENT. HE APPEALED TO LEADING SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY, INCLUDING LABOR, TO BEAR THEIR SHARE OF THE MEASURES

TO REACH THIS GOAL. HE CONCLUDED THAT THE WEST GERMAN RECOVERY WILL CONTINUE: THAT INVESTMENTS WILL RISE, AND THAT UNEMPLOYMENT WILL DROP. AT

THE SAME TIME, OTHER INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACIES AND MANY

LDC'S HAVE SEVERE PAYMENTS PROBLEMS.

SCHMIDT SAID THAT THE FRG HAS DONE ITS PART TO HELP THEM
IN THE PAST AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO, ACTING ON THE
PRINCIPLE THAT OUTSIDE HELP MUST GO WITH SELF-HELP
AT HOME.

A. THE CHANCELLOR RENEWED THE TRADITIONAL FRG
SUPPORT FOR AN OPEN WORLD TRADING SYSTEM, AND FOR
RESTORATION OF "MARKET STABILITY" TO THE EC CAP POLICY.

B. IN THE ENERGY FIELD, HE SPOKE OF THE VITAL ROLE
WHICH COAL AND OIL WILL PLAY. HE ALSO SAID THAT WEST
GERMANY CANNOT DO WITHOUT NUCLEAR POWER, ALTHOUGH HE

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PAGE 01 BONN 21122 02 OF 04 161602Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4109

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 04 BONN 21122

PLEDGED THAT THE FRG AND LAENDER WILL GIVE PRIORITY TO
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PAGE 02 BONN 21122 02 OF 04 161602Z

OPERATIONAL SAFETY AND TO PROPER AND TIMELY CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT IN THE PROCESS OF BUILDING SUCH PLANTS. REFERRING INDIRECTLY TO THE BROKDORF INCIDENTS, THE CHANCELLOR STRESSED THAT EVERY CITIZEN HAS THE RIGHT TO DEMONSTRATE, BUT NO ONE HAS THE RIGHT TO DEMOLISH.

C. THE CHANCELLOR RENEWED HIS PLEDGE FOR A HIKE IN THE VAT ON JANUARY 1, 1978. THIS WOULD ENABLE THE FRG TO PROCEED WITH CERTAIN MEASURES OF TAX RELIEF.

5. DOMESTIC SOCIAL MEASURES.

THE CHANCELLOR REVIEWED A LONG SERIES OF MEASURES ON EDUCATION; IMPROVEMENT IN THE LOT OF CHILDREN, WOMEN AND OLDER PEOPLE; AND SOCIAL SECURITY. HE RE-NEWED HIS PLEDGE TO SEEK THE REMOVAL OF THE "NUMERUS CLAUSUS" SYSTEM WHICH RESTRICTS ENTRY INTO UNIVERSITY STUDY.

A. THE WEST GERMAN "SOCIAL NET" HAS A FINE MESH, THE CHANCELLOR SAID, BUT IT CANNOT SATISFY ALL WANTS AND THE STATE SHOULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO DO EVERYTHING. SCHMIDT CALLED ON THE CITIZENS, CHURCHES, AND SOCIAL WELFARE GROUPS TO DO THEIR SHARE; IN PARTICULAR, WITH RESPECT TO HELPING NEWLY ARRIVED ETHNIC GERMANS TO SETTLE IN HERE.

B. SCHMIDT SPOKE OF THE PARTICULAR PROBLEMS POSED BY FOREIGN WORKERS WITHIN WEST GERMANY. HE SAID THAT FOREIGNERS NOW MAKE UP 6.3 PERCENT OF THE WEST GERMAN POPULATION. HE PLEDGED THAT THE BAN OF IMPORTATION OF NEW FOREIGN WORKERS (IN EFFECT SINCE NOVEMBER, 1973) WILL REMAIN, AND THAT THE FRG WILL NOT AGREE TO AN EXPANSION OF WORKER MOBILITY IN EC ASSOCIATION AGREEMENTS INVOLVING "OTHER THIRD COUNTRIES." SCHMIDT CONCLUDED THAT AN EXPERT COMMISSION SHOULD BE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BONN 21122 02 OF 04 161602Z

FORMED, WITH BROAD PARTICIPATION, TO STUDY THE PROBLEM
OF FOREIGN WORKERS.

6. RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE CITIZEN AND HIS SOCIETY.

SCHMIDT CALLED ON ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT, AND PRIVATE GROUPS AS WELL, TO SIMPLIFY THEIR PROCEDURES TO MAKE THEM MORE INTELLIGIBLE TO THE AVERAGE CITIZEN. HE PLEDGED TO CONTINUE EFFORTS TO REFORM THE CIVIL SERVICE. WITH RESPECT TO EFFORTS TO EXAMINE THE POLITICAL BELIEFS OF CANDIDATES FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, SCHMIDT SAID THAT THE FRG WILL CONDUCT THESE INVESTIGATIONS WITH DISCRETION AND FAIRNESS, IN FULL CONFORMITY WITH PRINCIPLES SET FORTH BY THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTIONAL COURT AND DECISIONS BY THE FEDERAL LABOR COURT.

A. IN THE FIELD OF INTERNAL SECURITY, SCHMIDT PLEDGED TO CONTINUE WITH EXPANSION OF THE "BUNDES-KRIMINALAMT." MAJOR TARGETS OF THIS OFFICE WILL BE INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING IN DRUGS AND WEAPONS, AND TERRORISM.

B. ENVIRONMENT. SCHMIDT CALLED ON ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT TO WORK TOGETHER FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE GERMAN ENVIRONMENT. HE SAID THAT BONN WILL BE THE FRG CAPITAL "FOR SOME TIME" AND THAT EFFORTS MUST CONTINUE TO MAKE IT MORE ATTRACTIVE.

C. GERMAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION. SCHMIDT SAID THAT THE FRG HAS SUPPORTED THE EARLY CREATION OF A GERMAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION. HE WARNED, HOWEVER, THAT IF "BUND-LAENDER" NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS POINT DO NOT END SOON, THE FRG AS A FIRST STEP WILL SEEK "AN INTERIM SOLUTION" TO CREATE THIS FOUNDATION. HE ADDED THAT BUDGETARY MEANS ARE ALREADY AVAILABLE FOR THIS PURPOSE.

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PAGE 04 BONN 21122 02 OF 04 161602Z

7. FOREIGN POLICY.

SCHMIDT'S REVIEW OF FOREIGN POLICY RAN THE FULL GAMUT: RELATIONS WITH THE WEST, RELATIONS WITH THE EAST, THIRD WORLD AND NORTH-SOUTH MATTERS, AND OPEC.

A. HE PLEDGED THAT THE FRG WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT A POLICY OF DETENTE AND TO SEEK FURTHER DISARMAMENT

AND ARMS CONTROL MEASURES. IT SUPPORTS THE MBFR TALKS
FOR EUROPE AND THE UN SPECIAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON

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PAGE 01 BONN 21122 03 OF 04 161608Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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P R 16153Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4110
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
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UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 04 BONN 21122

DISARMAMENT WHICH HAS BEEN SET FOR 1978. NATO REMAINS
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PAGE 02 BONN 21122 03 OF 04 161608Z

THE BASIS FOR WEST GERMAN SECURITY, SCHMIDT SAID, AND THE "BUNDESWEHR" REMAINS FULLY COMMITTED TO THE ALLIANCE. THE CHANCELLOR EXPRESSED UNEASE OVER THE DIFFICULTY WHICH "SEVERAL PARTNERS" (UNNAMED) HAVE IN MAINTAINING SUFFICIENT CONVENTIONAL FORCES. THESE ARE, HE DECLARED, THE PREREQUISITE FOR THE STRATEGY OF GRADUATED DETERRENCE.

B. SCHMIDT DECLARED THAT THE USA WILL CONTINUE TO MEET ITS RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SECURITY OF THE WESTERN WORLD. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE WELCOMED THE RECENT MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER TO THE NATO MINISTERS. SCHMIDT DECLARED THAT THE U.S. PRESENCE IN EUROPE IS NEITHER POLITICALLY NOR MILITARILY REPLACEABLE. HE ADDED THAT THE EXCELLENT BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN BONN AND WASHINGTON HAVE LED TO A DEGREE OF TRUST WHICH ALSO FACILITATES COORDINATION IN ECONOMIC AND CURRENCY MATTERS.

C. EASTERN EUROPE. THE CHANCELLOR WAS SATISFIED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS WITH THE USSR, POLAND AND OTHER EE STATES. HE DECLARED THAT BONN EXPECTS THE BREZHNEV VISIT NEXT YEAR TO GIVE QUOTE STRONG NEW IMPULSES UNQUOTE FOR COOPERATION. IN THIS CONTEXT, HE underscored BONN'S INTEREST IN CLOSE TIES WITH THE NEUTRAL AND NON-ALIGNED STATES WHICH HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN OVERCOMING THE DIVISION OF EUROPE. HE SAID THAT THIS IS ONE REASON WHY YUGOSLAVIA'S INDEPENDENCE IS SO IMPORTANT.

D. CSCE. SCHMIDT SAID THAT BONN IS WORKING HARD TO PREPARE FOR THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE NEXT SUMMER, AND EXPECTS THAT MEETING TO GIVE A NEW PUSH TO IMPLEMENT AGREEMENTS AND PLEDGES WHICH WERE MADE AT HELSINKI.

E. EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. SCHMIDT SAID THAT THE
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PAGE 03 BONN 21122 03 OF 04 161608Z

FRG REGARDS THE EC AS A "VITAL PREREQUISITE FOR THE SECURITY OF PEACE AND FREEDOM." HE PLEDGED THAT BONN WILL CONTINUE TO PROMOTE EUROPEAN INTEGRATION AS POSSIBLE, PARTICULARLY IN THE FIELD OF A COMMON FOREIGN POLICY, BUT EXPECTS A CLEAR SYSTEM OF PRIORITIES FOR STRUCTURAL REFORM IN THE EC. HE SAID THAT BONN HAS AN INTEREST IN BINDING STATES SUCH AS GREECE, PORTUGAL,

SPAIN AND TURKEY MORE CLOSELY TO THE EC IN ORDER TO PROMOTE THEIR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND DEMOCRATIC STABILITY.

F. NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES. SCHMIDT PLEDGED CONTINUED WEST GERMAN EFFORTS TO CLOSE THE NORTH-SOUTH GAP AND TO HELP THE LDC'S. HE DECLARED BONN'S SUPPORT FOR: A WORLDWIDE DIVISION OF LABOR WITH FREE EXCHANGE OF MATERIALS, SERVICES, INVESTMENT AND TECHNOLOGY; PROTECTION AGAINST CONFISCATION WITHOUT COMPENSATION; OPENING OF THE MARKETS BY THE INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES; SUCCESS OF THE MTN NEGOTIATIONS; LDC SOVEREIGNTY OVER THEIR RAW MATERIAL RESOURCES; AND RENUNCIATION OF MISUSE OF ECONOMIC OR MARKET POWER VIA CARTELS AND MONOPOLIES. SCHMIDT REITERATED THE STANDARD FRG PREFERENCE FOR MEASURES TO STABILIZE LDC COMMODITY RECEIPTS IN LIEU OF A WORLD-WIDE DIRIGISM WHICH HE DECLARED "UNWORKABLE." HE CALLED ON COMMUNIST STATES TO BEAR MORE OF THE BURDEN IN HELPING THE LDC'S. HE

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PAGE 01 BONN 21122 04 OF 04 161604Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 04 BONN 21122

SAID THAT BONN IS PREPARED TO RAISE ITS ODA CONTRIBU-
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PAGE 02 BONN 21122 04 OF 04 161604Z

TION, PARTICULARLY FOR THE LLDC'S. NOTING THAT WEST GERMAN CITIZENS MUST REALIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF FOREIGN AID PROGRAMS, SCHMIDT RECALLED THAT GERMANY TOO HAD ONCE DESPERATELY NEEDED -- AND RECEIVED -- MASSIVE AID FROM ABROAD.

8. OPEC.

SCHMIDT SAID THAT THE FRG EXPECTS ALL STATES TO DO THEIR SHARE TO DEVELOP AND STABILIZE THE WORLD ECONOMY. THE FRG HOPES THAT OPEC WILL DO ITS PART IN HELPING TO RESOLVE NORTH-SOUTH PROBLEMS AND TO BRING THE CIEC TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION. SCHMIDT MAINTAINED THAT, IN THE PAST SEVEN YEARS, WEST GERMAN EXPORT PRICES HAD ONLY Risen 150 PERCENT WHILE OPEC'S PETROLEUM PRICES HAD JUMPED MORE THAN 400 PERCENT.

9. INNER-GERMAN AFFAIRS AND BERLIN.

SCHMIDT PLEDGED TO CONTINUE THE POLICY OF SEEKING NEW AGREEMENTS WITH THE GDR, IN PARTICULAR WHERE HUMANITARIAN IMPROVEMENTS CAN BE ACHIEVED. HE DECLARED THAT THE SURGE IN TRAVEL BETWEEN THE TWO GERMANIES PROVES THAT THE "TREATIES ARE FILLED WITH LIFE." HE ALSO EXPRESSED SATISFACTION OVER THE DEVELOPMENT OF INNER-GERMAN TRADE. AT THE SAME TIME, HE SAID THE GDR MUST BEAR FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR VIOLENCE ON ITS WESTERN BORDER. WITH RESPECT TO BERLIN, SCHMIDT DECLARED THAT THE FOUR POWER AGREEMENT HAS BROUGHT CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE CITY, AND THAT THE FUTURE CHALLENGE IS TO DEVELOP FURTHER THE ECONOMY OF WEST BERLIN. THIS COULD ONLY BE DONE, HE SAID, IN CLOSE

COOPERATION BETWEEN BONN AND THE THREE POWERS.

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